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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/28/02 3:55pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Department of Justice:

I am writing to comment on the proposed settlement with Microsoft. I believe that the settlement is fair for both Microsoft and consumers. Microsoft deserved a penalty for their behavior and the penalty is harsh enough for Microsoft to learn their lesson.

Microsoft's competitors continue to fund lobbying efforts to overturn the settlement and inflict harsher penalties. The settlement is for the consumers, not competitors who find their best way to compete is fund lawsuits against Microsoft. An antitrust remedy should be designed to protect consumers rather than advance the interests of competitors.

The Department of Justice must stand-by the settlement, and not allow competitor-funded lobbying efforts to sway them. In no way do the competitors (i.e. AOL, Sun Microsystems, Oracle) have the consumer rights in mind when they continue to pour money into lobbying efforts. They want to create harsher penalties on Microsoft so they may be better equipped to compete. If they did have the consumers in mind they would be pouring money into research and development to compete with Microsoft in the marketplace.

It's time to end this with the proposed settlement and all these companies should get back to what they do best...create innovative products for consumers.